

Appl. No. 10/032,652
Amdt. dated January 7, 2004
Reply to Office action of December 22, 2003

DRAWING COMMENTS

The Examiner has not referred to the drawing objections raised in the last action. Applicant, therefore, assumes that the amendments made to the specification answered the Examiner's questions relative to the drawings. Accordingly, the drawings appear to be approved.

(1) The Examiner objects to the drawings because the Numeral 146 is not mentioned in the specification. The Examiner's attention is directed to Page 14, Lines 4 to 6.

(2) The Examiner objects to the drawings because the Numeral 128 is mentioned in the specification, and not in the drawings. The reference to Numeral 128 is replaced with a reference to Numeral 140.

(3) The Examiner objects to the drawings because the Panel 142 should be Panel 180. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Panel 142 and grained sheet 180 are different aspects of this invention. Such a different description is permitted.

RESTRICTION ELECTION

Applicant has cancelled Group II, consisting of Claims 12 to 17, and filed his divisional application.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 4 to 11 and 18 to 22 are in the application. Claims 18 to 22 are allowed. Claim 1 and 6 to 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent 6,127,293 to Kimura et al. (hereafter Kimura). The Examiner's suggested amendments have been made, and all claims present in this application are believed allowable. Such action is respectfully traversed.

Additional, a clarifying amendment has been made to Claim 10, based on Page 11, Line 23 of the specification.

CONCLUSION

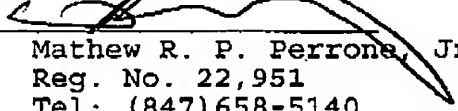
Accordingly, all rejections having been overcome by

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amendment or traversed by remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the instant application is respectfully requested. Applicant's attorney remains amenable to assisting the Examiner in the allowance of this application.

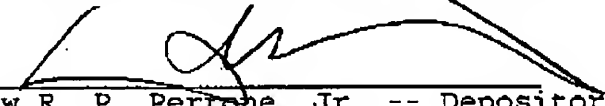
Applicant respectfully requests that a timely notice of allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited by facsimile to (703)8729306 addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on or before January 7, 2004.


Mathew R. P. Perrone, Jr. -- Depositor

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Faxed on/before January 7, 2004.